GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Public Service – Revenue Department – Departmental proceedings against Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District – Departmental proceedings under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 – Article of charges – Issued.

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REVENUE (VIGILANCE.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 731 Dated: 16-07-2025

Read the following:-

1. From the DG, ACB, RC.No.14/DES-VSK/2023-S.12, Dated:23.07.2024.
2. G.O.Ms.No.246, Revenue (Vig.III) Department, dated:16.07.2025.

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O R D E R:

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the A.P.Civil Services (CC & A) Rules, 1991 for committing irregularities noticed by the Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau during the Surprise Check conducted in the O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District on 26.04.2023.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charges (Annexure. I). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charges are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure. II & III).

3. Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is directed to submit within 10 days of the receipt of this order, a written statement of his defence.

4. Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charges as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each Article of Charge.

5. Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defence on or before the time specified in Para 3 above, further actions will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is invited to Rule 24 of the A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his/her interests in respect of matters pertaining to his/her service under the Government. If any representation is received on his/her behalf from any other person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings it will be presumed that Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his/her instance and action will be taken against him/her for violation of Rule 24 of A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G. JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District
through the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri.

Copy to:

The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau, AP, Vijayawada.
The District Collector, Srikakulam District.
Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI PONNADA SRINIVASA RAO, DEPUTY TAHSILDAR, O/o TAHSILDAR, JALUMURU MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO. 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2023 OF SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

That Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District (Here-in- after referred as Government Servant) while function as such during the period between from 30.04.2019 to till the date of surprise check i.e 26.04.2023 committed grave misconduct in as much as;-

Article -1:-

That the Government Servant while working as Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District, failed in maintenance of the records such as pay bill register of VRO, VRAs, Pay bill register of the O/o Staff of Tahsildar and Treasury Bill Registers.

Article -2:-

That the Government Servant while working as Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District has failed to look after the proper functioning of the Mee-Seva issues, and kept 24 Mee-Seva applications pending beyond SLA period.

Thus Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of devotion to duty, failed to maintain integrity, behaved in a manner unbecoming of Government servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and there by violated the Rules 3 (1), (2) & 3-B(b) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

G JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI PONNADA SRINIVASA RAO, DEPUTY TAHSILDAR, O/o TAHSILDAR, JALUMURU MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO. 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2023 OF SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is a native of Tholapi village, Ponduru Mandal. His date of birth is 16.08.1986. He entered into Government Service on 08.08.213 as Asst. Section officer and later Selected in Group-II as Deputy Tahsildar on 20.04.2018 and then worked as Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru on 30.04.2019 and worked there till the date of surprise check i.e on 26.04.2023. He is due to retire on his superannuation on 31.08.2048. He is here-in-after called as Government Servant.

CHARGE-1 :-

That the Government Servant while working as Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District, failed in maintenance of the records such as pay bill register of VRO, VRAs, Pay bill register of the O/o Staff of Tahsildar and Treasury Bill Registers.

FACTS IN EVIDENCE:-

On credible information and basing on the petitions received through 14400 calls that the revenue officials of Jalumuru Mandal are resorting to corruption by colleting bribes from the public who are approaching them for various works, committing so many irregularities in processing the applications of the public for various services and also in maintenance of registers. On that the ACB officials of Srikakulam Range conducted Surprise Check on the O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru, Srikakulam District on 26.04.2023 from 15:30 hrs to 23:55 hours in the presence of official mediators namely (1) Sri Gopisana Venkata Rao Appalanaga, S/o Babu Rao, age 34 years, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Kollivalasa, Burja Mandal, Srikakulam District, R/o BC Colony, Ragolu, Srikakulam Mandal and (2) Sri Bora Sankara Narayana, S/o late Satyanarayana, age 51 years, Live Stock Assistant, Veterinary Dispensary, Ragolu, Srikakulam Mandal, R/o Kuppili Village, Etcherla Mandal.

During the course of surprise check, the Deputy Tahsildar produced the office order dated 29.04.2022 vide Rc.No. 01/2022/SA, and the same was seized for the purpose of enquiry, duly attested by the Inspector and the Mediators. Later the Inspector ACB secured the following registers from the establishment section room of the office and the details are as follows:

1. **Pay Bill Register of VRO:** The register was opened in the year 2020 and maintained up to December, 2022.
2. **Pay Bill Register of VRAs:** The register was opened in March, 2019 and maintained up to December, 2022.
3. **Pay Bill Register for O/o Staff of Tahsildar:** The register was opened in the year 2020 and maintained up to December, 2022.
4. **Treasury Bill Register:** The register was maintained upto 03.06.2022. The last entry was made for bill No. 2022-695501, dated 03.06.2022 for an amount of Rs. 39,750/- at page No. 08.

On perusal of the above registers, they are not maintained properly and not up to dated. The Inspector got taken Photostat copies of relevant pages of the registers 1 to 4 and seized the Photostat copies of the registers duly attested by Inspector and the mediators.

As per the G.O.Ms.No.3 Rev (Serv-III) Dept. Dt 05.01.1990 of Govt. of A.P., coupled with G.O.Ms No 463 of Revenue (SER.II) Department, dated 07.12.2015 of Govt. of A.P., the Dy. Tahsildar of concerned Tahsildar office has to maintain records and record room. As per the office order dt 29.04.2022 vide Rc.No. 01/2022/SA of the Tahsildar, Jalumuru, the Dy. Tahsildar will supervision on the maintenance of records. But the maintenance of the records is very poor.

During the course of enquiry, addressed a letter to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam and requested to provide the information with regard to the service particulars and other information pertaining to the surprise check conducted on the Tahsildar office, Jalumuru and obtained the reply accordingly from the Revenue Divisional officer, Srikakulam vide RC No 659/2023/F dated 06.10.2023 of Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam.

During the course of enquiry, examined and recorded the statement of the RDO, Srikakulam and on examination she stated that as per the seized Xerox records placed by the ACB official before her on 06.10.2023, the maintenance of the records is very poor as the office staff of the Tahsildar, Jalumuru are not maintained the main registers i.e pay bill registers, treasury bill register properly. They maintained Pay bill registers up to 12/2022, TBR Register up to 6/2022, Cash Register up to 11.08.2022.

Of the above, the charge is held substantiated.

Charge -2:-

That the Government Servant while working as Deputy Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District has failed to look after the proper functioning of the Mee-Seva issues, and kept 24 Mee-Seva applications pending beyond SLA period.

FACTS IN EVIDENCE:-

During the course of surprise check, on the instructions of the Inspector, ACB, the Tahsildar, Jalumuru got taken printout of list of applications received through Mee-seva under various heads through Sri Mohan Kumar, outsourcing Computer Operator and the list is as follows:

S. No.	Name of service	Category-A	Category-B					
		Total Requests	Total Requests	Approved requests	Rejected Requests	Pending within SLA	Lapsing SLA in 24 hours	Pending beyond SLA
	Current Adangal	3599	8	0	8	0	0	0
	ROR 1B	6330	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mutation and title deed cum	0	293	212	81	0	0	0
	Income Certificate	0	545	519	24	1	0	1
	Issuance of income and asset certificate for economically	0	31	30	0	1	0	0
	Integrated	0	861	816	18	18	0	2
	OBC Certific	0	438	418	5	7	0	8
	Family member	0	60	44	11	4	0	1

	No Earning Member Certifi	0	3	2	0	0	0	1
.	Late Registra	0	18	14	0	0	0	0
.	Late Registration of Death	0	6	0	1	1	0	2
.	Passbook replace	0	51	42	9	0	0	0
.	e-passboo	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
.	Possession certifica	0	3	0	2	0	0	1
.	F-Line applications	0	282	277	4	0	0	1
.	Modifications in 22-A list	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Total	9929	2602	2376	163	33	0	24

Out of total requests 2,602 (category-B) received under various heads in Mee-Seva portal, 2,376 applications have been approved, 163 applications have been rejected, 33 applications were pending with in SLA and 24 applications were pending beyond SLA but as per Government norms, these 24 applications are supposed to be disposed before SLA period and such thing was not done.

The Inspector, ACB got the above lists into a made up file and seized the same, duly attested by the mediators, and the Inspector for the purpose of enquiry.

As per G.O.Ms. No. 463 of Revenue (SER.II) Department, dated 07.12.2015 of Govt. of A.P., the Dy. Tahsildar of concerned Tahsildar office has to monitor the Mee-seva applications as per scheduled time limit.

According to the Rule 3-B(b) of A.P.C.S (Conduct) Rules, 1964 “No Government Servant shall in his official dealings with the public or otherwise adopt dilatory tactics or wilfully cause delays in disposal of the work assigned to him.

As per the office order dt 29.04.2022 vide Rc.No. 01/2022/SA of the Tahsildar, Jalumuru, the Dy. Tahsildar has assigned the work of the Mee-Seva project.

During the course of enquiry, addressed a letter to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam and requested to provide the information with regard to the service particulars and other information pertaining to the surprise check conducted on the Tahsildar office, Jalumuru and obtained the reply accordingly from the Revenue Divisional officer, Srikakulam vide RC No 659/2023/F dated 06.10.2023 of Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam.

During the course of enquiry, examined and recorded the statement of the RDO, Srikakulam and on examination she stated that the Tahsildar office, Jalumuru had received a total of 2,602 Mee-Seva applications from 26.04.2022 to 26.04.2023, and out of which 2,376 applications have been accepted, 163 applications have been rejected and 33 applications are pending. 24 applications are pending beyond SLA period.

The above oral and documentary evidence are proved that Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Dy. Tahsildar failed to look after the proper functioning of the Mee-seva issues and kept 24 Mee-seva applications pending beyond SLA period.

Thus, the Government Servant Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, and conduct unbecoming of a Government servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and thereby violated the Rules 3 (1), (2) & 3-B(b) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, the Government Servant Sri Ponnada Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru Mandal, Srikakulam District has rendered himself liable for departmental action.

G JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III
LIST OF WITNESSES:

The following oral evidence is available on record.

1. **Sri Gopisana Venkata Rao Appalanaga, S/o Babu Rao, age 34 years, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Kollivalasa, Burja Mandal, Srikakulam District, R/o BC Colony, Ragolu, Srikakulam Mandal:** He is the mediator-1 and he speaks about the surprise check proceedings conducted on the office of Tahsildar, Jalumuru on 26.04.2023 and etc facts.

2. Sri Bora Sankara Narayana, S/o late Satyanarayana, age 51 years, Live Stock Assistant, Veterinary Dispensary, Ragolu, Srikakulam Mandal, R/o Kuppili Village, Etcherla Mandal: He is the mediator-2 and he speaks about the surprise check proceedings conducted on the office of Tahsildar, Jalumuru on 26.04.2023 and etc facts.

3. Smt Boddepalli Santhi, Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam.

She speak about the facts of her furnishing the information to ACB officials through her letter R.C. No. 659/2023/F dated 06.10.2023 of the O/o Revenue Divisional Office, Srikakulam regarding the procedural aspects, service particulars of the employees of the office of Tahsildar, Jalumuru and other information and etc, facts.

4. Sri K.Bhaskara Rao, Inspector, ACB, Srikakulam Range.

G JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV
LIST OF DOCUMENTS:

The following documentary evidence is available on record:

1. Surprise check proceedings dated 26.04.2023 in 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2023:

It shows the surprise check proceedings conducted on the office of the Tahsildar, Jalumuru on 26.04.2023.

2. Copy of Pay Bill Register of VRO: The register was opened in the year 2020 and maintained up to December, 2022.

3. Copy of Pay Bill Register of VRAs: The register was opened in March, 2019 and maintained up to December, 2022.

4. Copy of Pay Bill Register for O/o Staff of Tahsildar: The register was opened in the year 2020 and maintained up to December, 2022.

5. Copy of Treasury Bill Register: The register was maintained up to 03.06.2022. The last entry was made for bill No. 2022-695501, dated 03.06.2022 for an amount of Rs. 39,750/- at page No. 08.

On perusal of the above registers mentioned at Sl.No.2 to 5, they are not maintained properly and not up to dated.

6. RC No 659/2023/F dated 06.10.2023 of RDO, Srikakulam: It shows the procedural aspects, service particulars of the employees of the office of Tahsildar, Jalumuru and other information and etc, facts.

7. Office Order vide Rc.No. 01/2022/SA dt 29.04.2022 of the Tahsildar, Jalumuru:-

It shows the work allotment to the staff of the O/o Tahsildar, Jalumuru.

8. Statements of the witnesses mentioned at Sl. No 3 of oral evidence.

Any other document needed, will be submitted at the time of enquiry.

G JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

SECTION OFFICER